

Interceptor Body Armor (IBA)

Interceptor Body Armor (IBA) is the most up-to-date body armor available, and was designed to replace the Personal Armor System Ground Troops (PASGT) and the Interim Small Arms Protective Overvest (ISAPO) vests. Each new generation of body armor is designed to offer increased protection and comfort to the Soldier by stopping or slowing bullets and fragments and reducing the number and severity of wounds.

IBA is the model name for modular, multiple-threat body armor, consisting of the Outer Tactical Vest (OTV), Small Arms Protective Insert/Enhanced SAPI (SAPI)/(ESAPI), Deltoid and Axillary Protector (DAP), and the Enhanced Side Ballistic Insert (ESBI). Eight sizes of OTV and five sizes of front and back ergonomically designed SAPI/ESAPI ballistic plates are being fielded. The basic system weight (OTV and SAPI) is 15.66 pounds (size medium), which is 9 pounds lighter than the PASGT/ISAPO combination. The OTV, without plates, weighs 7.66 pounds (size medium) and protects against fragmentation and 9mm rounds. The SAPI/ESAPI plates provide additional protection and can withstand multiple small arms hits. There are attachable throat and groin protectors for increased protection and webbing loops on the front and back of the vest for attaching pouches from the Modular Lightweight Load-Carrying Equipment (MOLLE).



Performance Characteristics

Component Materials: OTV/DAP/ESBI Carrier: Cordura, Kevlar, and/or Twaron. SAPI/ESAPI/ESBI: Composite ballistic ceramic plate with coated ballistic fiber backing

Color: Universal Camouflage Pattern

Weight System: 9.61 pounds to 33.29 pounds (size medium) depending on configuration; OTV: 9.61 pounds; ESAPI: 10.9 per pair (size medium); DAP: 5.034 pounds; ESBI: 7.75 pounds per set

Size: OTV: X-Small through XXXX-Large; SAPI: X-Small through X-Large

"I've got photographs of guys holding the flattened bullet that hit them in the chest: It knocked them down, but they got up and shot the guy that shot them."

– Arthur Durante, infantry manual developer from Ft. Benning, on the IBA

"We saw that it did work. We didn't go out the [base] gate without our helmets and vests on. It's hot and heavy, but the protection is worth it."

– CPT Eric Hillerson on the IBA and ACH



Deltoid and Axillary Protectors (DAP)

Enhanced Side Ballistic Insert (ESBI)

Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) combat operations increased the extensive use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) by terrorist insurgents. Whereas the Outer Tactical Vest (OTV) of the Interceptor Body Armor (IBA) provides torso protection from the fragmentary effects of IEDs, combat commanders and medical personnel identified a shortfall in the upper arm and underarm areas not currently covered by the IBA. To meet this threat and to provide an increased level of protection, Deltoid and Axillary Protectors (DAP) and the Enhanced Side Ballistic Insert (ESBI) were developed.

DAP consists of two ambidextrous modular components, the Deltoid (upper arm) Protector and the Axillary (underarm) Protector. The Deltoid Protector attaches at the shoulder of the OTV and is secured around the wearer's arm with a strap. The Axillary Protector is worn under the OTV and is attached to the underside of the shoulder portion of the OTV and to the interior adjustment strap on the lower side of the OTV. The DAP provides the same level of protection as the OTV. They are issued as an assembly of two each Deltoid and Axillary Protectors.

The ESBI consists of two ambidextrous modular components: the carrier assembly and the ballistic insert. The carrier assembly attaches to the OTV by using the webbing on both the front and the back of the carrier, and can be further secured through incorporation with the DAP. The ESBI can use either a 7 x 8 inch ESBI or a size extra small ESAPI. The ESBI will be issued in sets each consisting of two carriers and two inserts.

Performance Characteristics

Component Materials

DAP and ESBI Carrier: Cordura, Kevlar, and/or Twaron

Ballistic Insert: Composite ballistic ceramic plate with coated ballistic fabric backing

Color: Universal Camouflage Pattern

Weight:

DAP: 5.034 pounds per set

ESBI: 7.75 pounds per set

Size: N/A



Deltoid/Upper Arm



Axillary/Underarm



Enhanced Side Ballistic Insert

